MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 NOVEMBER 1981

Saudi Peace Plan

Saudi Denial -- Citing the Saudi newspaper 'UKAZ, QNA reported that Saudi Arabia's UN representative denied telling the New York TIMES that the Saudi peace plan includes recognition of Israel. The envoy said the newspaper had "distorted" his remarks on thie subject.

PLO Diplomacy, Comment -- The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio reported that after a 17 November meeting in Bahrain with Amir 'Isa ibn Salman Al-Khalifah, PLO Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat denied that the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front states are thinking of submitting an alternative to Saudi Crown Prince Fahd's peace plan at the upcoming Arab summit conference in Fes. However, he revealed that the PLO has asked that new clauses be placed on the summit conference agenda. In an interview with Beirut radio after a meeting with Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis the following day, 'Arafat said he discussed the Saudi peace plan with Sarkis "within the context of other issues that will be put on the agenda of the summit conference." 'Arafat reiterated his welcome for the Saudi peace plan.

Meanwhile, SPA reported that PLO representative in Saudi Arabia Rafiq an-Natshah said in an interview with 'UKAZ that the Arab summit conference should adopt a unified and definite decision on the Saudi peace plan, either approving it, amending it or submitting an alternative. Asserting that the current state of no peace and no war in the Middle East is unacceptable, he said the Saudi plan is the most important topic on the conference agenda.

Message to Al-Asad, Syrian Comment -- SANA reported that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad received Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, who conveyed a message to him from Saudi King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. Without alluding directly to the Saudi plan, a commentary by the Damascus paper ATH-THAWRAH, reported by SANA, reiterated Syria's view that Israel does not want peace and that Israeli "aggression" can only be eliminated by force. "Any attempt to separate the Israeli aggression from the U.S. onslaught against the region is a strategic error," ATH-THAWRAH warned.

Libyan Opposition -- JANA carried a message from the Permanent Secretariat of the Libyan-based Arab People's Congress to the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front meeting in Aden that called on the front to confront the Saudi peace plan at the forthcoming Arab summit conference. The Fahd plan is a project for adopting U.S. plans at the expense of the Arab nation and the Palestinian issue, the message said.

Steadfastness and Confrontation Front

The PDRY news agency ANA reported that the Political Committee of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front held a meeting in Aden attended by representatives of the five members of the front: the PDRY, Libya, Algeria, Syria and the PLO. ANA later carried the text of a speech to the committee by PDRY Foreign Minister Salim Salih Muhammad, in which he denounced U.S. policy for attempting to restore imperialism's "golden era," and praised peace initiatives by the Soviet Union.

Tripartite Alliance

A communique issued at the conclusion of an extraordinary meeting of the foreign ministers of Ethiopia, Libya and the PDRY, broadcast by Addis Ababa radio, strongly condemned the current U.S. military maneuvers in the region as intimidation by U.S. "imperialism and its collaborators." The aim of the exercise, it added, is "to beat the cold war drum" in preparation for a general international conflict. The communique said the three ministers decided to take the necessary measures to counter such "conspiracies." They will raise the matter with the OAU, the Arab League, the Nonaligned Movement and the United Nations.

Libya

Citing a statement by the U.S. State Department spokesman that the United States is considering a boycott of Libyan oil, Tripoli radio said that such a statement is an example of the "twisted" logic used by the United States in dealing with others. Libyan oil, it added, is not subject to U.S. decision because it is the property of the Libyan people. The radio said hostile U.S. moves against Libya can "only be considered international terrorism."

Lebanon

Siege Lifted -- Voice of Hope radio reported early on 19 November that in view of a UNIFIL promise to negotiate, Christian Militia Commander Maj Sa'd Haddad ordered the lifting of the siege of the UNIFIL Command in An-Naqurah and the reopening of the coastal road to and from it. According to Jerusalem radio, Haddad said the move was a humanitarian gesture toward UNIFIL. The previous day, the radio had reported that Haddad told a press conference that his forces were besieging An-Naqurah in retaliation for the encirclement of an armored car by UNIFIL troops near At-Tiri. Asserting that his militia would also besiege other UNIFIL positions, Haddad warned that if the UNIFIL troops try to break through their besiegers by force, "that will be the end of UNIFIL."

Eytan on Palestinians, Missiles -- According to Jerusalem radio, Israeli Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan said that if Israel needs to deliver a "crushing blow" to the Palestinian "terrorists," this will be done in Lebanon. However, Eytan indicated that Israel wants the current "quiet" situation on its northern borders to continue. The chief of staff also said the removal of the Syrian missiles in Lebanon is not of supreme urgency for Israel.

Iran

Citing Iranian press and television reports, AFP said 20 Mojahedin-e Khalq members and Kurdish rebels were executed in various cities and that 115 members or sympathizers of the Feda'iyan-e Khalq were arrested in Khorramabad. Tehran radio reported several clashes over the last few days between government forces and Kurdish rebels in Sanandaj, Mahabad and Bukan, in which the rebels suffered casualties.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

An Iraqi Armed Forces communique broadcast by Baghdad radio claimed that Iraqi pilots downed two more Iranian F-14's in a dogfight over Ahvaz. On the other hand, Tehran radio said Iranian forces shot down an Iraqi helicopter over Zahab. According to another Tehran radio report, Iraqi forces bombed Abadan, causing civilian casualties.

Pakistan-Afghanistan

Karachi radio reported that the Pakistani Government again issued a strong protest to Afghanistan over further alleged violations of Pakistani airspace. The radio said four Afghan helicopter gunships crossed the border on 17 November and strafed two refugee camps, killing 1 refugee and wounding 12 others. The Afghan charge d'affaires in Islamabad was told that such incidents may result in increased tension between the two countries.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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AAPSO PRESIDIUM SESSION OPENS IN KABUL 18 NOV

LD190732 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 19 Nov 81

[Text] Kabul, 18 Nov (BAKHTAR) -- A session of the Presidium of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization opened here this afternoon with the speech of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council, at Salam Khanah Palace as a manifestation of Afro-Asian peoples support to the revolution and people of Afghanistan.

The session is being attended by 42 members of the Presidium of AAPSO as also by representatives of about twenty other solidarity organizations from Asia and Africa as well as from Europe and America. The delegates also include a representative from United Nations Organization. The session will also discuss various problems pertaining to the activities of the AAPSO.

Karmal Address

LD190750 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0510 GMT 19 Nov 81

[Text] Kabul, 18 Nov (BAKHTAR) -- Babrak Karmal today said that the undeclared war of reaction and imperialism against democratic and revolutionary Afghanistan is not an isolated phenomenon but a part of the broad offensive of international imperialism against the forces of peace and social progress in the world.

The general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council was addressing the session of the Presidium of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Organization which opened here today.

He said that the key to victory in this great historical struggle is to be found only in the ever-more consolidation and expansion of the three revolutionary forces of our time, that is, the world system of socialism, the liberating movement of the working class in capitalist countries and the national liberation movement throughout the world and in the reliance on the brave struggle of the heroic people of Afghanistan for freedom, prosperity and welfare of the people.

Greeting the participants of tenth AAPSO Presidium session from various Afro-Asian countries as also from Europe and Latin America who have gathered here to manifest international solidarity with the people and revolution of Afghanistan on the eve of the twentieth anniversary of Non-Alignment Movement [NAM], Babrak Karmal said: "The Afro-Asian Solidarity Organization from the very beginning of its activity has helped in the defence of the struggle of the oppressed people from the bloody colonial rule and in the struggles of young states which have achieved political independence."

Babrak Karmal added that the DRA which itself is one of the founders of Non-aligned Movement believes that the NAM as a major current of international politics enjoys high status and prestige on international plane on the basis of its anti-imperialist positions and measures and its struggles for peace and international security.

Babrak Karmal added that the evolution of international condition in the dangerous actions of the camp of war and imperialism demands of the NAM that it take up positions in the front of struggles against imperialism side by side with its natural ally, that is, the camp of peace and socialism, and bridle the unsaturable [as received] appetites of imperialism for war, tension and arms race.

Speaking on the foreign policy of the DRA, the Afghan head of state said that it was based on the principle of peaceful coexistence between differing social economic systems, loyalty to the principle of non-alignment and militant international solidarity. He stressed that the DRA believed that knotty problems in international relations can be solved only through useful negotiations and good will.

In his speech, he reiterated the consistent and indefatigable efforts of the revolutionary state of the DRA for preservation and consolidation of friendly relations with all countries, especially the neighbouring countries, on the basis of mutual respect to independence, national sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

Babrak Karmal said: "Our revolutionary party and state deeply believe that Middle East, South and South-West Asia, Far East, Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf should not remain as seats of tension and a source for the danger of war for the peoples of the region and the mankind in general and that all imperialist military bases of U.S.A. in these regions should be dismantled.

He supported the conversion of the Indian Ocean into a nuclear free zone. On the Middle East, he said that the only way out of the problem lies in the evacuation of Israeli soldiers from the occupied Arab lands and guaranteeing of the legitimate rights of the people of Palestine including the formation of an independent state of Palestine.

Babrak Karmal reiterated the support of Afghanistan to the recent Soviet peace initiatives as the comprehensive peace programmes for the eighties.

He said that in spite of the undeclared imperialist war waged against Afghanistan from the territory of Pakistan the Afghan people were continuing their work and struggle for the construction of a new society. He pointed out that the various sectors of the national economy were developing harmoniously and that the production of many of the industrial branches set up with the help of the socialist countries is satisfactory. Similarly, the pace of the growth of agricultural production also indicates a considerable growth.

Other Speeches

LD190936 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0525 GMT 19 Nov 81

[Text] Kabul, 18 Nov (BAKHTAR) -- Nuri Abdul Razaq, general secretary of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization, has thanked the PDPA, the government and the people of Afghanistan for the hospitality in hosting the tenth session of the Presidium of AAPSO which begin in Kabul today.

In his detailed report to the session he called the host city as the indestructible port of the national democratic revolution. He said that all democratic forces of the world appreciated the victories of Afghanistan in eliminating the feudal system and the age old backwardness. He added that Afghanistan deserved to be appreciated and defensed, because the deep national and democratic reform, and changes towards the building of the new society, not only accorded with the interests and will of the people of Afghanistan but also with the world struggle for democracy and independence. The will of the people of Afghanistan, he said, should be respected and the national sovereignty of the DRA should be safeguarded.

The AAPSO secretary general said that the organization supported the peace initiatives of DRA especially the proposals of August 24.

At today's session Abd Fatahi, the chief of Palestine Liberation Organization [words indistinct] and expressed the solidarity of PLO with the revolution and people of Afghanistan.

VAJPAYEE ON U.S. REFUSAL TO SUPPLY TARAPUR

BK171334 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 17 Nov 81

[Excerpt] Bharatiya Janata Party President Vajpayee has described the U.S. refusal to supply enriched uranium to Tarapur as politically unwise and morally indefensive. He told newsmen in Visakhapatnam today that India should make alternative arrangements.

Paper on Uranium Supply

BK181537 Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 12 Nov 81 p 2

[Text] New Delhi, November 11 -- A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry yesterday declined to comment on a newspaper report that the French Government had decided to "consider favourably" the supply of enriched uranium for Tarapur. The spokesman said he would not comment on a "speculative" report.

The report followed a statement by a Janata leader who had wanted to know from the government whether the purchase of Mirage-2000 aircraft was linked to the supply of enriched uranium by France.

According to informed sources, such a linkage would be ridiculous since the Mirage purchase had a vital issue which had to be assessed on its own. It was too big a project to be linked with another unrelated minor matter.

Any breach of contract by the U.S. with regard to fuel supplies will be a cause for concern to India but technically India is not so dependent on external sources. In any case, India is not entirely unprepared to meet the eventuality of the final stoppage of the U.S. supplies through its own resources.

France is another source of enriched uranium supplies. However, India has not explored this avenue for Tarapur in view of its pact with the U.S.

It does, however, expect France to supply as per the agreement, fuel for the fast breeder reactor at Kalpakkam. The fuel will be required for charging the reactor in the near future. It is in this regard that bilateral discussions have been held in the past. At one stage, the talks covered the price of the fuel over which there were some differences.

The problem pertains to only one nuclear power unit and there is still some more time at India's disposal to come up with an alternative fuel. Thus, there is hardly any reason to bring in unimportant extraneous factors in the consideration of the Mirage deal, according to these sources.

Under the current framework of the Indo-Soviet cooperation in the nuclear field, the Soviet Union has supplied heavy water which enabled India to start the second unit of the Rajasthan power project.

The only way India can use a large-sized nuclear power plant, with each unit of 1500 mw or so, is by planning an industrial agricultural complex around the plant. Some large power intensive industries alone can justify such a large unit.

Meanwhile, India is stuck without heavy water for commissioning the first unit of the Madras atomic power project which is ready. It is trying to build up the initial stocks of heavy water for charging the plant through indigenous production which had been suffering for one reason or the other.

To use imported heavy water for the Madras station will involve its being subjected to international safeguards. The case of the Rajasthan unit was different since it was already under safeguards due to the Canadian collaboration earlier.

PRESS COMMENTS ON BANGLADESH ELECTION

BK180701 Hong Kong AFP in English 0558 GMT 18 Nov 81

[Text] New Delhi, 18 Nov (AFP) -- Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's party newspaper "NATIONAL HERALD" today reminded the new Bangladesh president that friendship with India was a great guarantee for the security of his country.

"It is good to remember that friendship with India is a greater guarantee of security, stability and progress than all the rosy, but empty, promises of powers whose only interest in the region is to fish in the troubled water," the paper said in an editorial comment on the weekend Bangladesh election.

The paper accused Abdus Sattar of sticking to "rigid positions" on the New Moore (South Talpatty) Island and Farakka issues.

The paper, which generally reflects the policies of the government, said that there should be no doubt that India would respond "more than adequately" to any Bangladesh move to improve economic, cultural and other relations with Dacca.

"It must not be forgotten that one of the reasons of Bangladesh's break with Pakistan was that they had severed its trade and cultural ties with India leading to economic distress and spiritual dissatisfaction."

The paper, however, expressed satisfaction on Abdus Sattar's declaration that the Bangladesh foreign policy would remain unchanged.

On Mr Sattar's election victory, independent newspaper "HINDUSTAN TIMES" said that it was never in doubt, but the magnitude of the victory came as a surprise.

"Awami League election meetings had initially left the impression that the party would mount a major challenge to Sattar, but an insidious and apparently successful propaganda campaign questioning the integrity of the league and linking Hasina Wazed to India seems to have caused a sizable shift in voting pattern," the paper said in an editorial. The paper said it was unlikely that mass rigging had taken place in favour of Mr Sattar.

The opposition newspaper "INDIAN EXPRESS" said that it was the army which in effect helped Mr Sattar to win.

"Although the military forces did not directly figure in the picture, at the peak of the campaign the army chief, General Ershad, came out with the extraordinary statement that a victory of the Awami League would be ruinous to Bangladesh. The message must have gone home in the intended quarters," the paper said. The paper accused the Bangladesh National Party (BNP) of using the official media and machinery to serve its interest and said that the minority community might have abstained from voting out of fear.

COMMENTARY ANALYZES GANDHI VISIT TO EUROPE

BK171606 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 17 Nov 81

[Commentary by S. Sethuraman of PTI]

[Text] Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi has just returned from a tour abroad. It must be regarded as highly successful in promoting greater understanding between India and Western Europe. There is a lot of misconception about India's perception of some international questions and of her own security environment and such visits help to make the world understand India's position and concerns better. While Mrs Gandhi's visit to Bulgaria was a friendly gesture to a country with which India has a growing warm relationship, the prime minister's talks in Rome and Paris were of great significance on the point of view of establishing a political equilibrium and restructuring international economic relations.

France is a major Western power and it has a new political order with the socialists led by Mitterrand firmly entrenched in power to give new directions to a country which has historically played a great role. Relations between France and India have been getting closer, especially on the economic side, for quite some time, but with the socialists coming to power, there has been a greater sense of importance in working with India in a genuine partnership.

Mrs Gandhi's visit to Italy was a reflection of the desire of both countries to forge stronger economic ties than at present. Also, Italy is more appreciative of the needs of the poorer developing countries and the support of countries of the West should help to resolve some key issues in the current North-South dialogue.

France under Mitterrand has taken a lead in championing the cause of the Third World, notwithstanding some hardline positions taken by the United States, the most powerful nation. It is because of the strong line taken by France and the sentiment in favor of the Third World in other countries -- including Canada, West Germany and Italy -- that some limited advance was possible at the North-South summit at Cancun, Mexico, last month.

Mrs Gandhi's talks in Paris ranged over the international situation with particular reference to Europe, other questions like the Middle East, Afghanistan and Kampuchea, the developments in the subcontinent and the North-South dialogue. The French may not look at some of the troubled spots exactly as India, but the joint declaration issued by the French president and Mrs Gandhi sets the tone for the conduct of international relations and imparts the needed sense of urgency to global negotiations for the restructuring of the international economic order. France supports the developing countries in regard to the creation of food security, stabilization of export earnings for primary commodity exports, financing of payment deficits of oil-importing developing countries and channeling of investments for developing their energy sources. With these priorities, the global dialogue should begin to make headway once the current wrangle over procedures is overcome. France, along with certain other Western countries, may be expected to exercise their influence in getting over the initial hurdle in launching the global round of negotiations.

Mrs Gandhi's visit has resulted in the establishment of a broader framework of economic cooperation between India and France. In several key sectors -- like coal and other forms of energy, telecommunications and new technological equipment -- the two countries will intensify their cooperation. Some protocols have been signed by officials on both sides during Mrs Gandhi's visit. French Prime Minister Mauroy has indicated that France is prepared to extend large credits to India to promote economic collaboration. India is also negotiating with France for acquiring the highly sophisticated Mirage 2000 aircraft in the first phase and then manufacturing them in India with French partnership.

In Rome, the Italian Government announced that it would extend an additional 120 million dollars to India for financing some of the projects, including petroleum, chemicals and shipbuilding. The two countries also reached agreement on expanding trade and setting up joint ventures in third countries. Italy has agreed to help India in setting up an institute for leather goods.

The broadening and deepening of economic cooperation between India on the one hand, and France and Italy on the other, is a major gain for Mrs Gandhi's visit. Primarily, the prime minister undertook the tour to extend India's good will to these nations and exchange talks with their leaders on how to create an environment where peace will become more secure. Naturally, the impact of the superpower rivalry in general and induction of arms into the subcontinent, which could make it a war zone, were referred to by Mrs Gandhi, who emphasized that this would make rapid economic development for the countries of region extremely difficult.

Mrs Gandhi is satisfied, judging from her remark that she has been able to convey India's concerns to the countries she visited, and there has been a better understanding of this even if these governments felt differently over the cause of a build up of tension in the subcontinent.

INDIAN NAXALITES HOLD NATIONAL CONVENTION

BK151204 Hong Kong AFP in English 0709 GMT 15 Nov 81

[By Dilip Ganguly]

[Text] New Delhi, 15 Nov (AFP) -- Indian "extremist communists," in their first ever serious national level move, have vowed to shun their differences and work for a unified Communist Party. Several leading extremist communists or Naxalities, as they are popularly known, concluded yesterday their first ever national-level six-day convention at Naxalbari, the birthplace of the Naxalite movement 14 years ago in the eastern state of West Bengal.

The convention, attended by senior and middle-ranking Naxalite leaders from 14 of the 22 Indian states, was convened by Kanu Sanyal, one of the four founder-members of the Naxalite movement, which after its birth in 1967 spread fast to the eastern and southern states, but soon got divided on ideological and personal grounds and lost much of its hold.

Mr Sanyal, who was the organizer of the movement with the late Charu Mazumdar being the chief theoretician, was released from prison after the Janata (Peoples) Party came to power in 1977. About 10,000 Naxalites were released from prison under a general amnesty. The Naxalites were imprisoned during the late 60's and early 70's crackdown by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Congress Party-ruled state governments.

The Naxalbari convention, which independent observers said might herald the beginning of a new and unified communist movement in India, formed a 13-member Central Committee with Mr Sanyal as the secretary. The primary task of the committee was to work for unity among the "communist revolutionaries" and setting up a real Communist Party on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and Mao's thoughts."

The convention condemned the Soviet "occupation of Afghanistan," American action in El Salvador, Vietnamese "aggression on Cambodia" and supported the upsurge of the Polish working class. The convention also agreed that the Chinese Communist Party is the real Communist Party and China is a socialist country.

Self-criticism dominated the proceedings of the delegate session. The majority of them felt that they had wasted the past 14 years by following a wrong political line. All of them admitted, according to a source, that what they did in the name of the Naxalite movement in 1967 under Charu Mazumder was "nothing, but the highest political blunder." They did not support the policy of annihilation of individual class enemy and felt that there is time to "rectify the errors and form a true Communist Party."

Independent observers here said it would be difficult for Mr Sanyal to unify the Naxalite factions. Interior Ministry reports say there are two major, five secondary and over 20 minor Naxalite groups in the country with a cadre strength of 15,000 to 25,000 and over 500,000 sympathisers.

The Naxalites have 70 periodicals, underground and otherwise, and over 200 front organizations. Since the first phase of the movement during 1967-72, much has changed in the movement's strategy and priorities.

Where the sole policy was "liberation through annihilation of class enemies by squads of peasant guerrillas," today there are Naxalite parties, who call themselves the Communist Party of India, Marxist-Leninist (CPI-ML), contesting elections and propagating their ideology through drama troupes, students unions and newspapers.

The two major groups are being led by Vinod Mishra, a former engineering student, and the 67-year-old Chandra Pulla Reddy who carries a reward of Rs 100,000 (about $12,000) on his head.

Mr Michra's group is active in eastern India while the south Indian states are under the influence of Mr Reddy.

While both groups are agreed on a strategy of armed revolution and mostly work underground, Mr Reddy's group is willing to acknowledge the role of electoral policies.

Though neither of the groups attended the Naxalbari convention, informed sources said that Mr Reddy's group in the long run might join hands with Mr Sanyal, one important reason being that Mr Reddy, like Mr Sanyal, considers Beijing as the nerve centre of the international communist movement and not Moscow. But Interior Ministry reports credit Mr Mishra with leading the most important and numerically strongest extremist Communist Party in the country now.

ESSENTIAL SERVICES STRIKES BANNED IN ASSAM

BK190645 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 19 Nov 81

[Text] Strikes in all essential services in Assam have been banned. The center invoked the Central Services Maintenance Act yesterday to impose a ban on the eve of the 36-hour Assam bundh [strike] called by the agitationists on the foreign national issue.

The ban covers the railways and other essential services including post and telegraph, transport, banking, air services, hospitals and distribution of coal, power, steel, petroleum and petroleum products as well as all defense establishments and installations.

The ban order also applies to strikes in the private sector industries covered by the Industries Development and Regulation Act. The order also encompasses central undertakings engaged in purchase, procurement, storage, supply or distribution of foodgrains as well as all central government establishments and offices.

Meanwhile, latest reports from Gauhati says train services to and from Gauhati continued to run as scheduled this morning despite the 36-hour bundh which began at 0500 this morning.

The central services, including telephones, are functioning normally. Security arrangements all over the state have been tightened to prevent any untoward incident.

Talks To Continue

BK181610 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Nov 81

[Text] Union Home Minister Zail Singh has reiterated the government's resolve to find a satisfactory solution to the Assam problem. Addressing the Consultative Committee of his ministry, Zail Singh said while doing so the national and international commitments and humanitarian considerations will be kept in mind. He deplored the threat to resume agitation when the talks were in progress. An agitation, he said, will spoil the peaceful atmosphere so necessary for carrying on meaningful talks. He also assured the members that the government was fully prepared to maintain peace.

Referring to Punjab, Zail Singh declared the center and the Punjab government will deal firmly with those who propagate separatism. Such activities, he said, are antinational and they would be crushed. He appealed to the opposition parties to join hands with the government to fight secessionist tendencies.

A Home Ministry note in Punjab says that the Indian missions abroad have been asked to expose the shallowness of the propaganda of the protagonists of separatism.

AFGHAN AIRCRAFT VIOLATE AIRSPACE; PROTEST LODGED

BK171534 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 17 Nov 81

[Text] The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Ministry today in connection with severe violations of Pakistan's airspace by four Afghan gunships yesterday and a strong protest was lodged about the incident. The Afghan charge d'affaires was told that at 0500 [1200 GMT] in the afternoon yesterday, four Afghan gunships intruded four miles into Pakistani airspace at (Sarasimar) in the (Iralkotal) region from (Sadalsar) and they fired machineguns over the refugee camps near (Parimandal). Two Pakistani soldiers, who were deployed near the frontier crops post, were injured. Later, all these gunships stayed over the Pakistani territory for about 15 minutes and dropped some mines at (Khallachi), a border village of Pakistan. These helicopters returned to Afghanistan following reprisal fire from the Pakistani posts.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was also told that despite Pakistan's patience and restraint, Afghan aircraft are consistently violating Pakistani airspace and raiding Pakistani territory. He was warned that if the Kabul authorities do not check these provocative acts then the responsibility of any serious consequences will lie with the Kabul authorities.

Immediately after this protest to the Afghan charge d'affaires it was reported that four more Afghan gunships intruded into Pakistan's territory at 1235 [0735 GMT] from the (Khallachi) side and fired shots near the refugee camps in the southwestern areas and near (Amrithasinghar). These helicopters stayed for 10 minutes inside Pakistan's territory and dropped mines near (Amrithasinghar) and Karsia posts and fired five rockets.

UN ENVOY REJECTS INDIAN CHARGE ON AFGHANISTAN

BK181048 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 18 Nov 81

[Text] Pakistan has rejected the Indian contention that by adopting a frontline posture, Pakistan had occasioned the induction of sophisticated arms in the region, thereby arresting the process of detente in that area. Replying to Indian Foreign Secretary Sathe's speech in the General Assembly on the Afghanistan issue, Pakistani Ambassador Niaz A. Naik said Pakistan is a frontline state in the sense that following the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan and the eruption of national resistance against the foreign-installed regime in Kabul, Pakistan has become a victim of circumstances which are not of its creation. He said there had been no induction of very sophisticated arms in the region so far with the exception of advanced weaponry which India had acquired on a large scale from the Soviet Union and elsewhere.

Dealing with the statement made by the representative of the Karmal regime, the Pakistan representative said it is full of distortions and gross misinterpretations. He said it was the steadfast policy of Pakistan that its territory would not be allowed to be used for any hostile acts against Afghanistan.

DINNER HELD IN HONOR OF PRC'S YANG DEZHI

BK180720 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 18 Nov 81

[Text] Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Mohammad Anwar Shamim hosted a dinner in honor of Chief of the General Staff of the China's People Liberation Army Yang Dezhi in Peshawar last night. Yang, who is visiting Pakistan with a good-will military delegation, said that the people of the two countries support each other for the maintenance of regional security and sovereignty.

He commended the efforts of the Pakistani Air Force chief for increasing armed forces cooperation between the two countries.

In his address, Air Chief Marshal Mohammad Anwar Shamim expressed confidence that Yang's visit to Pakistan will help in further strengthening the friendly relations between the two countries and their armed forces.

YANG MEETS WITH CORPS COMMANDER IN LAHORE

BK181708 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 18 Nov 81

[Text] Chief of the General Staff of the People's Liberation Army of China Yang Dezhi, who is currently on a visit to Pakistan, arrived in Lahore from Peshawar today. He visited the corps headquarters where he held talks with Corp Commander Lt Gen Sardar S.S. Lodhi on matters of mutual interest. The corps commander presented the insignia of his formation to Yang Dezhi and gifts to other members of the delegation.

Later, the chief of the Chinese Army, along with the corps commander, visited training areas of various units of the armed forces and witnessed the regular training of the troops.

VISITING XINHUA DELEGATION CALLS ON HAQ

BK181549 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 18 Nov 81

[Text] The delegation of the Chinese news agency, XINHUA, which is currently visiting Pakistan, met with President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi today. Talking to members of the delegation, the president said that friendship between Pakistan and China does not exist only at the governmental level, as the people of the two countries are also friends.

Delegation leader Miao Hailing told the president that Pakistan has achieved much progress under his leadership and Sino-Pakistan friendship has further strengthened.

XINHUA GROUP FETED AT ISLAMABAD DINNER

BK180718 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 18 Nov 81

[Text] Director General of the ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN gave a dinner in honor of the Chinese news agency XINHUA's delegation in Islamabad last night. Delegation leader Miao Hailing stressed to the journalists that they should assume their role in further enhancing the understanding between China and Pakistan.

BRIEFS

QATARI MINISTER'S VISIT -- A six-member Qatari delegation, led by Interior Minister Khalid ibn Hamad, called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi on 17 November. The delegation, which is on a 3-day visit to Pakistan, held talks with the president on matters of bilateral interest. [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 18 Nov 81 BK]

IRON ORE TO INDIA -- The Pakistan steel mill has so far given final shape to the agreements on the supply of 31,000 tons of iron ore worth $3.4 million to India. [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 18 Nov 81 BK]

KHOMEYNI RECEIVES MUSAVI, OTHER OFFICIALS

LD181130 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Nov 81

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that Mr Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, the prime minister, this morning was received in audience by Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He informed the imam of the nation about the latest developments and events in our country.

The report also says that the foqaha [authorities in Islamic jurisprudence] and lawyers who are members of the Council of Guardians met this morning and held talks with the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The minister of Islamic guidance and Esfahan's Friday imam were also received in audience by the imam of the nation.

After his meeting with the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran the Friday imam of Esfahan said: In the course of the meeting, I briefed the nation's imam on various matters, including a report concerning the people's attitude toward the clergy in Esfahan. I humbly said that the citizens of Esfahan, who have had a long-standing interest in Islam and the clergy, are still behind the clergy and that if there be certain ill-intentioned or incited individuals they are not worth mentioning in comparison to the people's unreserved and solid support. The imam also expressed his thanks, and instructed that I convey this to the citizens of Esfahan.

Musavi on Meeting

LD182044 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Nov 81

[Excerpts] The Central News Unit reports that this morning Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi was received in audience by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He informed the imam of the nation of our country's latest developments and events.

At the end of this meeting the prime minister said, in an interview with PARS:

At this meeting a report on the country's political and economic situation and the issues facing the government was submitted to the imam, and his eminence issued the necessary guidance.

He added: At this meeting the imam was informed that we intend to appoint under secretaries in the prime minister's office in connection with the affairs of the Islamic revolution's institutions so that the relationship between the institutions and the executive departments might be disciplined, so that contacts between the government and the institutions might further expand and become more creative, and so that as a result of the creation of more extensive coordination between the institutions and departments the government might use its resources in any section which is in line with the growth and development of the institutions.

Mr Musavi said: At this meeting some of the decisions taken in recent weeks by the Supreme Economic Council were brought to the imam's attention. He added: Some of these decisions were to provide assurance to the private sector for investment in production projects and also to specify the sphere of activities for the public, cooperative and private sectors. The prime minister also said: This issue gives assurance to the private sector for investment. Recently some irresponsible individuals, without acting through legal and religious channels, have begun to confiscate and nationalize some factories. This is against government policy, and the government will strongly oppose it. The prime minister stressed: All the country's affairs must be pursued through legal channels, everyone must respect the law, and offenders must also be prosecuted.

Regarding the other activities of the Supreme Economic Council, the prime minister said: The Supreme Economic Council made proposals in connection with controlling inflation, which were conveyed to the imam.

While giving thanks for and paying tribute to the activities of the state economic mobilization headquarters, the prime minister said: The extent of this headquarters' activities is not to be compared even with those of countries which are not at war; this is because of the self-sacrifices and the creativity of the committed brothers who are active in this headquarters, and for this reason the state economic mobilization headquarters will continue its work. Decisions taken there are made in consultation with responsible authorities and those who have views in the Supreme Economic Council, and thus at state level we will be ready to stabilize the prices of necessary and rare goods. [sentence as heard]

Mr Mir-Hoseyn Musavi added: In future, the government will have policies for preventing an increase in the amount of money in circulation. This issue will be accepted by the self-sacrificing nation, and we are sure that, in general, this issue will be in the interest of the whole nation and can be an effective factor in preventing inflation.

He added: If we want to achieve economic independence the enforcement of these policies will be necessary. Meanwhile, the government policies are toward encouraging the nation to produce more and consume less. All these matters were briefly conveyed to the leader of the revolution. Decisions on these issues will be conveyed in more detail to the people.

Referring to the views of martyr Raja'i, who said that the government's Cainbet has 36 million members, the prime minister said: God willing, with the help of the people we will overcome the difficulties.

Referring to the continual statements by some Palestinian leaders about Fahd's American and anti-Islamic plan, Mr Musavi said: These types of leaders are being caught in the trap set by themselves. These people's dependence on reactionary countries, in accordance with America's plans, has made them lose their revolutionary stance and be caught in a trap which will result in nothing but their own destruction. Mr Musavi added: This issue distinguishes between the forces of truth and those of falsehood. By this plan, which is supported by America, the nations will recognize the nature of the regimes which are ruling over them, and the Palestinian resistance is no exception. We expect this issue to be confronted with the real resistance of the Palestinian nation and to be defeated in the end, which is certain.

As regards the plan proposed by Iran for resolving the Afghan issue, the prime minister said: When this plan was raised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs it was more detailed; but we inserted in its introduction a statement to the effect that if this plan's two principal articles are accepted by the Soviet Union, the rest of the details may be debated. I do not believe that a clearer and more specific plan has been raised in connection with such a difficulty.

MONTAZERI APPOINTS GUARDS CORPS SUPERVISOR

LD181126 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Nov 81

[Text] According to the Central News Unit's report from Qom, following the imam's granting of full powers to Ayatollah Montazeri, regarding the appointment of a person to supervise the Command Council of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hajj Seyyed Hasan Taheri was appointed today by Ayatollah Montazeri to supervise the Command Council of the corps. The text of Ayatollah Montazeri's order is as follows:

In His exalted name. His Excellency Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hajj Seyyed Hasan Taheri, may your shadow remain. Following my authorization by the great leader of the revolution, His Excellency Imam Khomeyni, may his shadow extend, to appoint a person to supervise the political and ideological course of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, by attending the sessions of the Command Council of the corps and supervising its internal procedure by forming a strong circle of the learned and aware clergymen of the Qom seminary and other committed brothers who are in line with pure Islam, you are appointed to supervise and become involved in the politicoideological course of that important organization which is, in fact, the strong arms of the revolution. You should also try, God Almighty willing, to make the corps rich in content in both the political and ideological spheres, so that it might be immune from internal clashes. In cases where possible deviations are observed, you should prevent them decisively.

I am certain that the honorable brothers in the Command Council and the honorable representative of the imam, may his shadow extend, will sincerely cooperate with you in this great task. I ask God Almighty for success for all in the performance of their religious duties. May peace and God's mercy be upon you.

[Signed] Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 702

LD181804 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Nov 81

[Communique 702 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Glory to all those noble and self-sacrificing families whose brave and combative sons are fighting on the battlefronts of truth against falsehood; and our greetings and thanks to all the brave and victorious warriors of our country. Part of the operations on the battlefronts during the past 24 hours is announced as follows:

Exchange of artillery and mortar fire continued in all the operational regions. The brave and Muslim combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, while having superior firepower, successfully continued their pounding operations on enemy positions, equipment and fortifications.

In the regions west of Dezful, Dasht-e 'Abbas and Eyn Khosh, the aggressive enemy lost one tank, one mortar and three vehicles. Personnel losses of the enemy included 14 dead and 5 wounded.

In the Ahvaz region, the artillery fire of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran destroyed two tanks and six trenches of the Saddamist warmongers.

In Karkheh, our forces opened fire and destroyed one tank, four trenches, four observation posts and two ammunition depots. On this front, 15 enemies of Islam were either killed or wounded.

In the Susangerd region, clashes between our forces and the enemy continued. The heroic combatants of the ground forces in this region succeeded in setting on fire 10 trenches and foxholes, 1 mortar and 1 ammunition depot of the enemy. Our forces also killed several Iraqi military personnel.

Thanks to the fire of our combative personnel on enemy positions, five ammunition depots, six vehicles and one mortar were destroyed on the other side of the Arvand Rud. The enemy's heavy-weapon fire on the residential districts of Abadan resulted in the wounding of several of our dear compatriots. Several residential units were also demolished or burned as a result of this cowardly action.

Thanks to the fire of the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, one mortar was destroyed in the occupied part of Khuninshahr, and several enemy personnel were killed or wounded.

On the western fronts of the country, the powerful warriors of our homeland inflicted effective blows on the enemy. In the region of Qasr-e Shirin, the indefatigable personnel of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran opened fire on positions of the invaders, destroying one 82-mm mortar and four enemy trenches. Several of the enemy were killed or wounded.

In the regions of Tang-e Hajian and Dar Ballut, the exchange of fire continued with the superiority of our forces.

On the Meymak front, the intense fire of our heroic forces destroyed one cannon, one mortar and four trenches of the Saddamists. On one of the western fronts of the country, one ammunition depot, three mortars and one cannon of the Iraqi forces were destroyed. Several of the enemy were either killed or wounded.

On 17 November, 50 Iraqi military personnel and 2 civilians presented themselves to the Sar Dasht garrison and sought asylum.

During the 16 November battle, 11 personnel of the Ground Forces and 1 combatant of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran gained the exalted status of martyrdom. May their souls be happy and may many more follow their path.

IRAQI HELICOPTER SHOT DOWN OVER ZAHAB

LD181728 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Nov 81

[Text] According to a PARS dispatch from Zahab, an enemy helicopter which was attempting to raid one of our positions yesterday was shot down by the combatants of Islam and all its crew were killed. Citing our operations headquarters in the west, PARS also reported that thanks to the fire opened by our forces on enemy positions in Rashid 'Abbas, inside Iraqi territory, four enemy trenches were destroyed and the servicemen manning them were either killed or wounded.

BRIEFS

AFGHAN REFUGEES RADIO PROGRAM -- The Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Mashhad, located in the northeast of the country, has allocated 90 minutes of its daily program to the Afghan refugees in Iran. Meanwhile, decisions are being made regarding employment, accommodation and other cultural and social issues pertaining to Afghan refugees. Although there is no official report on the number of Afghan refugees in Iran, unofficial statistics indicate that more than 1.5 million Afghan refugees are living in Iran at the present time. [Text] [Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 18 Nov 81 LD]

CULTURAL RELATIONS WITH DPRK -- This morning the DPRK ambassador in Tehran met the Foreign Ministry's director general for cultural and social affairs. During this meeting they discussed the expansion of cultural relations and the participation of the DPRK in the Tehran film festival which will be held on the occasion of the third anniversary of the victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran. [Text] [Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Nov 81 LD]